

PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

NO BEAUTY IN THE SIMPLE LIFE.

By Ida May Kracker.

The truly simple life in the twentieth century is not to rough it like a savage or a wild bird, but to render it easy, simple, to secure the complex needs for our complex organizations.

The simple life brotherhood argues for "raw foods." They are a step backward toward the time when there was little else to do besides eat, and time was not a desideratum. True, they make muscle. But modern man needs brain rather than brawn, and endurance more than brute strength.

The cry is for the simple life, and the simple life is interpreted in terms of raw food, wood chopping and log cabins, because we have not yet perfected our environment. We have not adapted it perfectly to our needs. Civilization is only beginning. After a time it will be just as easy for us to get our beautiful homes, and our music, art, finished education, and other luxuries of high culture as it now is for a savage to loiter under his baboon tree and catch the plump fruit as it falls.

PHYSIQUE SHOULD FIT THE JOB.

By John A. Howland.

Everywhere the modern civilization has built up on the line of least resistance. This fact has applied to individuals no less than to communities and to nations. To whatever extent the individual man leads himself to the reverse of the universal dictum, he handicaps himself. There may be no physical or mental reason why a man eight feet tall should not get a position as ribbon salesman in a department store. But the chances are that a line of least resistance will open for him at several hundred dollars a week, to a show platform in a museum of freaks.

Let an educated, refined man of good appearance apply in dire need to some employer who has only a coarse laborer's position to offer the applicant. Regardless of

how much the man may be in need of an honest dollar, the employer will seek a first excuse as to why his applicant should not take the one place that he has to give him. He feels that the work is beneath the capabilities of the man.

In just such measure as this the young man has need to consider his physical and temperamental fitness for his chosen work. Subconsciously the world looks to the worker to have a physique and bearing that are in keeping with his chosen occupation. To the extent that there are incongruities the worker must suffer handicap because of them.

TEACH HEALTH LAWS IN SCHOOL.

By Dr. Henry H. Almond.

Let us all awake to the belief that the laws of health are the laws of God, as binding on us as if they had been thundered forth from Sinai; that if those which are now known with certainty were applied in practice, the improvement in human life, morality and happiness would be stupendous. Man is greater than his surroundings, and the production of a breed of men and women, even in our great cities, less prone to disease and pain, more noble in aspect, more rational in habits, more exultant in the pure joy of living, is scientifically possible.

Many years ago I was a member of a school board. I ventured to propose regular open air drill for the children. I remember how the chairman, with a benevolent smile, suggested that we pass on to some practical business. Something of the same sort happened when I once complained of the fine assortment of evil gases and human exhalations in one school where the master was smitten with a fear of "drafts," and preserved each day's air carefully for use on the next.

My own belief is that not more than six hours per diem should be devoted to sedentary work in schools, and certainly not more than one and a half in winter and two and a half in summer to games. The rest of the time should be largely occupied with military drill, with work in the gymnasium, in the workshop, at targets, in various kinds of manual labor, or in singing—an excellent exercise for the lungs—or in playing musical instruments.

SUGAR KING SPECKEL'S DEAD

Founder of Sugar Industries in Victoria of Pennsylvania.

Claus Speckel, widely known as the "sugar king of the Pacific coast," died at 4:30 o'clock Saturday morning at his home in San Francisco in his eightieth year. The immediate cause of death was an attack of pneumonia, which developed with alarming symptoms during the past few days. His condition Christmas night told his physicians death was near and relatives remained at his bedside until the hour of his death.

Despite his advanced age Mr. Speckel had devoted a large share of attention to the various enterprises in which he was interested, and it is not more than a month since he appeared before the Ways and Means Committee of the House in Washington as an authority on the subject of sugar duties.

Claus Speckel was born in Lamsstadt, Germany, in 1828, and came to the United States in 1844. After being employed for some time in Charleston, S. C., and New York he came to San Francisco, reaching this city in 1850. He established a store there and later conducted a brewery. In 1868 he built the Bay Sugar Refinery and began the importation of raw material from Hawaii. Prospering in this business, he established other refineries and promoted the beet sugar industry by establishing refineries and engaging in the farming of beets on a large scale. He also built a refinery at Philadelphia, invested largely in the Oceanic Steamship Company and many other enterprises, including the building of the San Joaquin Valley Railroad.

INVITES TWO NATIONS.

President Roosevelt Asks Canada and Mexico to Aid in Conservation.

Announcement has been made at the White House in Washington of a proposed plan for a conference looking toward the conservation of the natural resources of North America, to be held at the White House Feb. 18 next.

Letters suggesting the plan have been addressed by President Roosevelt to the Governor General and to the Premier of Canada and to President Diaz of Mexico. They will be delivered to the officials in person by Gifford Pinchot, chairman of the National Conservation Commission and chief forester of the United States, whom President Roosevelt has chosen as his personal representative to convey the invitations and to confer with the authorities of the two governments. Mr. Pinchot first will visit Canada. He then will carry the invitation to President Diaz at the City of Mexico.

The proposed North American conference is the outgrowth of the two conservation conferences held in Washington, in which the governors of the States and Territories were the principal conferees. The representatives designated by the Canadian and Mexican governments will, under the proposed plan, consult with representatives of the State and other departments of this government and with the National Conservation Commission. The main object of the conference, as announced, will be to point out that natural resources are not limited by the boundary lines which separate nations, to develop a better knowledge of the natural resources of each nation on the part of the others, and to invite suggestions for concurrent action for the protection of mutual interests related to conservation.

WILL GIVE UP CUBA JAN 28.

Provisional Government of Island to Terminate on That Date.

Answering Governor Magoon's request for authority to convene the Cuban Congress and give formal possession to the Cuban government on Jan. 28, the following was received the other day from Washington:

Magoon, Havana.—Pursuant to instructions from the President, the Secretary of War directs:

1. That you assemble the Cuban congress on a convenient date, to be selected by you, to act on the credentials of members of the Senate and House of Representatives.

2. That, having passed on the credentials of members-elect and completed their organization, they assemble in joint session to canvass and declare the result of the vote of the electoral college for President and Vice President, and thereafter to recess until reassembled by you for the purposes specified in the following paragraphs:

3. That the terms of office of the President-elect and Vice President-elect of Cuba shall begin on the 28th of January, 1900, on which day they shall be inaugurated; that congress shall be assembled during the forenoon of Jan. 28, 1900, the call therefor specifying the initial duty of congress to be the induction into office of the President and the Vice President, and thereafter the consideration of all matters within the jurisdiction of congress at its regular sessions; that the President be inaugurated and the provisional government terminated at 12 o'clock noon on said Jan. 28, 1900.

This means the complete approval of the plan submitted by you.

EDWARDS.

Practically the entire business section of Havana, Okla., a town of 1,200 inhabitants, in Johnston county, was wiped out by fire, the loss aggregating about \$35,000.

Robbed of \$200 and Killed. C. W. Musgrave, aged 50 years, of Valentine, Neb., was robbed in Eldorado, Ark., of about \$200 and killed. His body was found near the school building. Lee L. Combs, a farmer, is held in connection with the killing.

Flashed Diamonds in a Sheet. In a sheet which was about to be placed in a mangle in a hotel laundry in Boston was found a \$5,000 diamond necklace belonging to Mrs. John De Coste, wife of the well-known English artist, who is at present in New York.

Two Killed in Strike Battle. A battle between strike-promoting miners and five United States marshals took place at Skowas, a coal mining town in Whitley county, Ky., and resulted in the death of two men and the wounding of several others.



The United States, it is estimated, has 201,704,624 apple trees and 17,710,184 pear trees.

It is not always the man who gets into the field first in the morning who raises the best crops.

The man who refuses to mix with his neighbor and docks all by himself has mighty poor company.

Being a good neighbor means a great deal more than merely keeping our share of the line fence.

A steady pull of ten hours counts more than a spurt before breakfast and an afternoon's rest at the old fashion hole.

You might about as well throw your ten manure into the creek as to mix it with ashes or lime. Peet or muck is the best to use as an absorbent.

Lambs make greater gains in feeding than old sheep. Good second growth clover is a great feed for the lambs. The heaviest fleeces are generally found on medium-sized sheep.

For a number of years following the introduction of the culture of sugar beets in this country in 1887 the industry was at a standstill. By 1893 the production of beet sugar had reached 22,344 short tons. In 1901 it was 184,000, while last year the total output was 500,000 short tons. The increase noted is due chiefly to the extending of the culture of the sugar beets in the irrigation sections of the West rather than to its adoption in sections where there is sufficient rainfall to produce the ordinary tilled farm crops.

Success of the Corn Show.

The Chamber of Commerce, the business men of Springfield, the exhibitors, the newspapers and the people who have patronized the exposition, have all been sowing corn seed. They have visited the Illinois Corn Exposition which closed last night, seen the glorious exhibits, realized the value of the show as an entertainer and educator, and are sowing the seed of indorsement right and left. Now let's see that the fields are well cultivated, the growing plant of future corn show enterprise properly nurtured and a magnificent crop reaped in the form of still better and greater corn show in 1902 than the brilliant show of the present year, the magnitude and success of which were sufficient to warrant making the Illinois Corn Show a permanent institution in Springfield—Springfield Register.

Wheat.

Each wheat has its own life history and romance. Take life wheats, which were the foundation of many varieties in spring wheats up to the introduction of Durum wheat. Years ago, nearly a century ago, David Fife, a Scotchman of Ontario, Ont., sent to a friend in Glasgow for a small bag of seed wheat to try in a cleared patch of the backwoods. The friend obtained some seed from a vessel just in from Dundee. Unfortunately, it was a fall wheat and reached David Fife in the spring. Nevertheless, David Fife sowed it in the spring. One can guess how feverishly the backwoods farmer watched for the growth of his experiment. Only three wheat heads survived till the fall; but those three wheat heads were entirely free of the rust that had ruined his neighbors' crops; and those three heads really represented a new variety of wheat, a fall wheat turned into a spring wheat. David Fife treasured the three heads and planted them in the spring. Such was the beginning of Fife wheat in America. It is thought it must have come originally from Russia; for, crossed with Russian Lagoda by Dr. Saunders, of Ottawa, it has produced a wheat splendidly adapted for the cold climate and long summer sunlight of the northwest.

Decrease in Apple Production.

To show the decrease in the production of apples in the United States in the last twelve years, these statistics, compiled by the Federal Department of Agriculture, are quoted:

Growers produced 60,540,000 barrels in 1895, and 69,070,000 barrels in 1890, the banner year in the history of the country. There was a decrease of nearly 28,000,000 barrels, or more than the entire crop of 1897, when the yield amounted to 41,530,000. Another decrease followed in 1898, the yield being placed at 28,570,000 barrels, but in 1899 and 1900 there were substantial increases, placed at 37,500,000 and 47,900,000 barrels, respectively. There was a drop of 20,800,000 barrels in 1901, while in 1902 there was an increase of 20,673,000 barrels, the crop being estimated at 47,625,000 barrels.

Forty-five million barrels of fruit produced in 1903, and in 1904 the yield was 300,000 barrels greater. Then, in 1905, it dropped to 23,500,000 barrels, and in 1906 it increased to 30,130,000 barrels. The crop of 1907 fell off to 25,000,000 barrels, which is the estimated yield for 1908. The total yield for the thirteen years amounts to 559,701,000 barrels or 1,679,283,000 bushels.

Prof. Herbert W. Mumford of the University of Illinois, who has spent half of this year investigating cattle conditions in Argentina, South America, recently showed to a farmer and student audience at the College of Agriculture a very interesting series of photographs which he took in that country, and gave the following, among other items, showing conditions in strong contrast to our own and showing

WASHINGTON GOSSIP

It has become known that it was President Roosevelt who first suggested that the Smithsonian Institution take part with him in the African enterprise. The secretary of the institution received a letter from Roosevelt last June, stating his intention of hunting in Africa and offering to give the institution the results of his expedition, provided it would send along the necessary naturalists to prepare and ship the materials. The offer was accepted and the funds have been raised, presumably from private donations, some suspecting that Carnegie is the interested party.

Director of Mines Leach reports that \$107,238,377 in gold was coined during the last fiscal year and \$10,940,477 in subsidiary silver, besides \$1,946,006 in minor coinage. He estimates the production of gold in this country to have been \$90,435,700 in the calendar year of 1907 and for the same period \$37,290,700 in silver. The consumption of gold in the industrial arts was \$40,727,076 and of silver 24,000,000 ounces. The stock of gold in the world Jan. 1, 1908, is estimated to have been \$7,014,000,000; silver coin, \$3,530,700,000, and the uncovered paper, \$4,302,500,000.

The Bureau of Statistics reports that the last fiscal year broke all records for exports of manufactures, their value amounting to \$368,000,000, as compared with \$355,000,000 the preceding year. In 1908 40 per cent of our manufactured exports went to Europe. Copper led in value at \$97,000,000; refined mineral oils came next, worth \$55,000,000, and steel manufactures third, worth \$47,000,000. Exports to South America totaled \$72,000,000, and to other parts of North America \$189,000,000, while \$72,000,000 worth were sent to Asia, \$40,000,000 to Oceania and \$10,000,000 to Africa.

A decrease of nearly \$18,000,000 in the internal revenue receipts of the government for the last fiscal year is attributed by Commissioner Capers to the prohibition movement, to the high price of grain and to an agreement among the distillers to limit the output. The production of distilled spirits was 126,574,000 gallons, as compared with 168,574,000 the year before. There was a decrease in the production of denatured alcohol.

The feature of the last annual report of Secretary of the Navy Mott is the policy of naval concentration urged by developing to their full capacity the yards at New York, Philadelphia, Norfolk, Puget Sound and Mare Island. Especial attention is paid to the freshwater basin at Philadelphia, as it is the only place on the Atlantic coast where battleships can be held in reserve or laid up in fresh water.

Notwithstanding the rule permitting anyone to have a letter sent by special delivery by merely affixing 10 cents' worth of ordinary stamps, the Post Office Department has just placed on sale a new design of a special delivery stamp which is distinctive from all other stamps. It utilizes the olive branch of peace and the cap of Mercury to suggest dispatch.

Following the ruling of the Patent Office, which recently refused to register a food label unless the name of the maker were inserted after the word "guaranteed," the National Board of Food and Drug Inspection has ordered that labels must be printed hereafter in accordance with that ruling, but old labels now in hand may be used up.

An official of the Navy Department says there will be no division of the battleship fleet of the United States between the Pacific and Atlantic until the total of our first-class fighting ships is so large that one-half of it will be equal to all the battleships built and building for Japan.

No apprehension is felt at the Navy Department over the appearance of smallpox on the battleship Georgia of Admiral Sperry's battleship fleet. It is said that only one case thus far has been reported and every precaution has been taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

The resolution of the national rivers and harbors convention calling for a bond issue of \$500,000,000, has stirred up a lively discussion among government officials and members of Congress.

Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou has been offered the presidency of the Union Trust Company, one of the largest financial concerns in New York.

Both the national conference of Governors and the Rivers and Harbors Congress went on record in favor of a \$500,000,000 bond issue for the promotion of deep inland waterways or for other works of equal importance. The Governors' conference also approved the creation of a permanent commission to look after such interests, and a committee was named to prepare a bill to be introduced in Congress. Speaker Cannon remained non-committal.

Secretary Wilson, of the Department of Agriculture, has announced his decision in the bleached flour controversy, holding that four bleached with nitrogen peroxide is an adulterated product under the law and that it cannot legally be sold in the District of Columbia or in the territories or be transported in interstate commerce. Owing to the immense quantity of bleached flour now on hand, the Secretary will recommend no prosecution of manufacturers or sellers for its sale, but will issue orders for its removal from the shelves.

The Real Thing.

Mrs. Bluehouse—Who is your favorite writer, Mrs. Shoppeigh?
Mrs. Shoppeigh—My husband.
Mrs. Bluehouse—Why, I wasn't aware that he was of a literary turn.
Mrs. Shoppeigh—Oh, yes; he writes checks.

LIFE'S GIFTS.

When I grow gray and men shall say to me
"What was the worth of living, truly told?"
Lo! Thou hast lived thy life out; thou art old;
Thou hast gathered fruit from many a green-leaved tree,
And kissed love's lips by many a summer sea,
And twined soft hands in locks of shining gold,
But all thy days are dead days now, be hold!
Life passes onward—what is life to thee?
Love will I answer, say thy gracious eyes,
Love, gleam upon me from dim far-off skies:
"Life had its endless, deathless charm—
and still
That charm weaves rapture round me at my will,
Life has its glory—for I have seen Thee,
And roses, and June sunsets—and the sea."
—George Barlow.

Her Attorney

The girl moved along the hallway in a hesitating fashion. She glanced at the signs on the doors and seemed unable to come to a decision. Her pale face wore a troubled expression. A frown darkened her forehead.

She was a slender girl, with dark hair and eyes, and her quiet gown and hat were tasteful and becoming. That was the opinion, at least, of the elderly man who was sitting at a table in one of the offices when she paused at the open door and looked in. He was an elderly man, of middle height, a little inclined to stoutness, a man with thick gray hair and short gray mustache, and his expression was a delightfully friendly one.

It was this characteristic expression that attracted the attention of the girl. She paused timidly for a moment and then came into the room a little way, and when she saw the man was alone she spoke.

"Sir," she said, "are you a lawyer?" His pleasant smile deepened.

"It is a curious fact," he said, "that I have never been asked that question before." His voice was deep and pleasant, too. "If you know our profession, young lady, you will not expect a direct answer. Will it suffice you if I say that I have been a member of the bar of this country for forty years?"

She hesitated and her voice trembled.

"I want to consult you about a divorce."

He was a little startled at this reply and glanced at his watch again.

"Very serious, of course. Haven't you anybody to advise you?"

"No. I'm a Chicago girl. All my friends live there."

"Yes. Then you haven't thought of going home to mother?"

"No. I'd be ashamed to do that."

"Good. Mother thinks you are happy, of course."



"YOU AND JIM QUARRELED?"

—and Mary had threatened to leave—and I hadn't heard from mother, and I was afraid she was sick—and—

The old man checked the torrent with an uplifted hand.

"Wait," he hastily said, "that's all right as an example of rapid enunciation, but as a basis for divorce charges it is very weak. Did Jim throw the butter dish at you, and follow it up with the cream jug?"

The girl stared at him.

"Why, Jim wouldn't do that," she said, "Jim's a gentleman."

"He might have been a little more courteous in his references to a lady's biscuits," said the old man. "But we will let that pass. What did he do?"

"He said some very cruel things," replied the girl as she choked back a sob.

"All untrue, of course?"

"Every one of them."

"What did he say?"

"I—I can't remember."

"But it is necessary to remember. What did he call you?"

"Met. He didn't call me anything."

"Didn't he say the cruel things about you?"

She gave a little start and opened her black eyes very wide.

"Why, what else can I have?" His voice was grave. "Jim's love."

The tears filled her eyes.

"It's too late for that," she half sobbed. "Jim's gone to see his lawyer."

The old man looked at his watch.

"That reminds me. Who is Jim's lawyer?"

"His name is Paulding, Jasper Paulding."

"Eh?" exclaimed the old man. "Why, I noticed his sign as I came through the hall. And it's just 12 o'clock."

Then he turned quickly and hurried down the hall. When he reached the door that bore the name of Jasper Paulding he opened it and entered.

Two men were seated at the table. One was wearing middle age. The other was a young man, a good looking young man, tall and muscular.

"There are occasions," said the old man, "when it seems justifiable to deviate from established rules. This is one of them." He looked hard at the young man.

"I have heard your wife's sad story," he gravely said.

And despite the gravity of his tone the young man almost believed he saw a twinkle in the keen old eyes.

"I feel quite sure," he said, "that my wife didn't paint me any darker than I deserved to be painted. Mr. Paulding will tell you, sir, that I came here only to arrange for the payment into Angela's hands of a fixed sum each week."

The old man arose.

"I am a little pressed for time," he said. "I go aboard the French lines this afternoon. Will you trust your client with me, Mr. Paulding?"

"Certainly, general," cried the lawyer. "He couldn't be in better hands than good-bye, sir, and a safe voyage."

A moment later the two men stood before the library door.

"Your wife is in there, Jim Robbins," said the old man softly, "and she's much too dear a wife and too sweet a girl to be lost through foolish pride. Do you understand?"

"Yes, sir," the young man answered. "I begin to understand."

They shook hands and then the young man quickly opened the door and as quickly closed it behind him.

The old man, nodded, and gently smiled. Then he looked at his watch and with a sudden exclamation left the room.

Five minutes later a puzzled look crossed the young wife's face.

"How did you know I was here, Jim?"

"Your lawyer told me."

The young wife clasped her hands.

"Isn't he the dear old man?" she cried.—W. R. Rose in Cleveland Plain Dealer.

In Behalf of the Cat.

Probably no domestic animal is the object of such studious neglect as the cat, declares the Milwaukee Free Press. Because she is undemonstrative, she almost invariably takes a back seat for the dog, because of the latter's maudlin identification of himself with his master.

We do not wish to underestimate the fine qualities of affection, courage, and sagacity which are the dog's, but neither do we like to see the wide-spread lack of appreciation for the cat's many admirable traits. Patience, endurance, good judgment, self-control, self-reliance, high spirits, and industry—many or all of these are possessed by the average cat.

Under favorable conditions she will also develop a strength of affection not devoid of demonstration that is equal to the dog's.

The most esthetic souls of all times have cherished the cat. Bonaldre, Von Scherff, Poe, De Musset, Henry Irving, and a host of other lovers of the beautiful come to mind in this connection. The silky felina, of padded footfall and mysterious wanderings, has ever appealed to the imagination, just as she has ever appealed to the sense of domestic comfort.

How fathers must avert! We are always hearing about it.

C. R. U. No. 1-1909

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For inflamed eyes, throat and nasal and voice ailments. As dryness, sore throat, 50 cents, or by mail postpaid.

THE POTION TABLET CO., Boston, Mass.

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with the one and welcome the other. If, on the contrary, the old year has brought only joy and comfort, we part from him sorrowfully, but meet his successor with the ardent hope that he, too, comes with blessing. The sober jollity of New Year's day is always of an impressive nature. It is like standing for one brief moment on the threshold between time and eternity. Here is the world we know, under the world that is new and untired.

Home Circle Department

A column dedicated to Tired Mothers as they join the Home Circle at Evening Tide.

Orde thoughts as they fall from the Editorial Pen—Pleasant Evening Reveries.

"The year lies white in the distance, Like snow that no step has marred, And we look at its shining surface As though through a window barred, And we wonder what idle footsteps Shall trample the fallen snow, Just as we watched and wondered A year ago.

"Since then so many fallen footsteps Have fallen and stumbled past, That the what perfection of promise Grew scattered and dark at last; But the now drifts lie on the pathway To cover the blackened snow, And the New Year comes in its beauty, As it came a year ago."

New Year Reveries.

If you find it so difficult to keep your New Year's resolutions, perhaps it would be a good idea to make a few bad ones this time, for a change. For instance, you might resolve to be cross to your wife (if you have one) every day during the year, and then give her gentle words and loving kisses instead. You can thus be consistent with your past record, and possibly be a better man when another year rolls around.

A new year is here. It is a time for invoice. Business men take an invoice of their stock. Wouldn't it be business for you to take one of yourself. Life, each life, is a business. Have you gained or lost last year? Have you used the talents that have been given you so as to gain other talents. Is there any prospect of your being placed over ten cities or five cities or one city? Have you declared any dividends in the way of loving and helping others, and have you added anything to the capital stock of your character? These are pertinent questions that press us all for an answer. Let the result of the self invoice be a spur to us in living the coming year, or a cause for great congratulations as we review the past and go forth to build "more stately mansions" for the future.

Though times and seasons are not as important as many would have us think, still nearly every thoughtful person at the coming new year remembers how old he is and wishes he were not quite so old. Let us turn our minds away from the tabernacle of flesh, the least real thing in our lives, and think a little of the inward growing old. For the body every added growth is almost incalculable gain. How old are we? How much older than a year, two years, ten years ago? How much quicker to recognize the divine voice? How much stronger our hand and clearer our voice against evil? How much swifter our feet to bear the message of good will to men? How much gain has there been in power and willingness to serve? How much more faithful are we in the chaos of small and common duties and cares? How much truer are we in friendship, warmer in the home loves, more patient with the mistaken and the bad?

The pessimist delight in derision of the good resolutions which mark the celebration of New Year in the minds of many people. Shame upon the man or woman who would dull the bright ambitions and desires for the better of any human being! But there is little time to give to habitual mourners and augurs of evil. The new year will be what we make it, so far as our individual lives are concerned, and the man or woman who resolves to be happy in a healthful, unselfish way is taking the first road toward happiness.

We are, all after happiness in one way or another. Even the recluse, even the martyrs of old were on the endless search for happiness, though the joy of heaven rather than that of earth was the goal fixed upon in the eyes of those who sacrificed the present for the future. Eternal happiness was what they desired. Unselfish happiness is always waiting right around the corner if we will only take our eyes off the far distance and look nearer home. The resolve to make next year a happy one for those nearest us will bring a good deal of real joy and satisfaction to the maker of the resolution, if he holds out well.

The first of January is the initial day of the year, and as such is honored by a multitude of observances, chief among which are the New Year saluting customs, the interchange of gifts, the cordial greeting, "A Happy New Year," and the demonstrations attendant upon the contemplative habit of seeing the old year out and the new year in. There are two great reasons why the time should be, if not cheerful, at least tranquil. If the old year brought sorrow and desolation, and hung on our doors, the new year will bring us the leaves

Another year is drawing to a close. Another milestone of life is in view and we shall, in all human probability, pass it and struggle on to the next. As we set at our desk and pen this short epistle to the young, we wonder if anything we may write will cause them to think more seriously of all life means to them and the brief period that is given them to improve it. The boy makes the man, the girl the woman. My boy, how do you want to be remembered by the people after you are gone, as a Lincoln or as a Booth? My girl, what position do you wish to occupy in the hearts of the people with whom you have lived? You are the moulders of your own destinies. You can make them what you will. It rests with you whether your name shall go down in history honored or cursed, or whether it shall pass into oblivion as soon as the earth has hidden your mortal remains. Now is the time to choose. There are only two roads to travel; one leads to happiness and honor, the other to sorrow or degradation. We suppose you want to travel the first mentioned. Are you doing it? As the apprentice works at his task and each succeeding day turns out work more perfect than on the preceding one, so should we make each succeeding year of our lives more perfect. Are we doing this? Do we take time during the hurry and bustle of the holiday season to review our work of the year and see wherein we have made mistakes, jotting them down in the future? That boy would never have become a perfect workman if he did not avoid the mistakes of yesterday. We must never make the same mistake twice, and in order to guard against doing so, we must look back and find the mistakes we have made. Will you do this, boys and girls? Will you rest from your play and jollity for just a little season between now and January 1, 1909, and recall those indiscreet words, those hasty actions that will prove stumbling blocks in the way of your becoming strong, helpful men and women, honored and loved by all for your noble character? Will you do it?

Marked for Death.

"Three years ago I was marked for death. A grave-yard cough was tearing my lungs to pieces. Doctors failed to help me, and hope had fled, when my husband got Dr. King's New Discovery," says Mrs. A. C. Williams, of Eac, Ky. "The first dose helped me and improvement kept on until I had gained 58 pounds in weight and my health was fully restored." This medicine holds the world's healing record for coughs and colds and lung and throat diseases. It prevents pneumonia. Sold under guarantee at A. M. Lewis & Co's drug store. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

From Beaver Creek.

(Received too late for last week.)

Mr. Editor—Allow me space to say that the farmers of Beaver Creek are still alive and up and doing, although the past season was somewhat a hard one, on account of the long continuous drought and the raging fires.

We have pulled through and have more of the necessities of life than we expected to have under the circumstances, and most of the farmers are well provided with feed to put their stock through the winter. I believe the old adage is true, that God helps those who try to help themselves, it looked very much that way the past year. But we have some citizens who think the good Lord ought to do it all, but in my opinion he never does.

We have more snow on the land at this time than for a number of years, and more coming.

The wood haulers of this town are certainly doing business, as there are from twelve to fifteen teams hauling hardwood from this section. John C. Failing is in the lead, as he is drawing with three and part of the time with five teams.

Geo. Belmore has men cutting hardwood for him, and he has teams drawing to Grayling, and some others drawing wood for themselves, so you see we are not all dead yet.

Fred Sholtis is on the sick list.

Raymond Skingley has returned home, after being away to work for several months.

Center Plains Gleaners elected their officers, December 19th.

Mrs. John Love returned home from Owosso, where she enjoyed a three weeks visit with her mother and sister.

Ethel and Frankie Love returned from the Grayling High School for holidays.

The children of School District No. 1 had a happy time at the school house Christmas Eve.

Casper Streittmiller talked of going to the woods for the winter. That don't look right; do more farming and look after your stock winters, there is more money in it.

The farmers of Beaver Creek are holding their clover seed this year, and they have a nice bunch of it between three and four hundred bushels. How is that for the Jack Pine Plains.

BAND CONCERT

Thursday Dec. 31, 1908.

PROGRAM.

Part I.

Overture Raymond Amb Thomas
Song of long ago Looking Backward Clement
Duet Trombone and Cornet Sparks
Ferdinand Sorenson and Joe Charron

Overture Orchestra Hits of 1909 A. Von Tilzer
Duet for two Cornets Liberatis Delight Knowl
Messrs. Clark and Peterson

Song When the Heart is Young, Ops. 67, No. 5 Page
Miss Anna Meilstrup

Part II.

Song Forest Echoes Kessler
Little Sweet Mary
Miss Anna Meilstrup

Cornet Solo Polka Victor Snyder
Thorwald Peterson

Trombone Solo In the Eternal City H. Von Tilzer
George Ed. Smart

Saxophone Duet Playmates Geo. McQuaid
Rolla Brink and Francis Reagan

March National Emblem
GOOD NIGHT.

TEMPLE THEATER!

Moving Picture Show.

EVERY NIGHT

New Program

ADMISSION - 5 cents

DOUBLE SHOW

EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT

ADMISSION - 10 cents

Start the

New Year

Right.

Begin by giving your eyes that long promised REST from the severe strain imposed upon them, with a pair of properly fitted.....

Glasses

Do not wait for a chance to break that good resolution. Do not.....

Procrastinate

C. J. HATHAWAY
Graduate Optometrist.

Remember

I have a few things left in my stock after Xmas rush MANY nice things suitable for.....

New Years or

Wedding Presents

Have also placed orders for cutglass and silver to fill in, so can supply your wants at all times.....

Yours for a

HAPPY NEW YEAR

C. J. HATHAWAY.

Watchmaker and Jeweler.

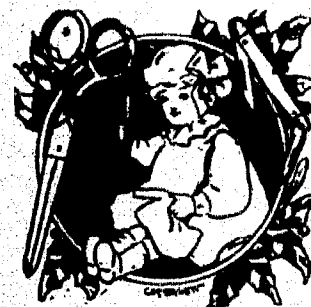
Medicine That Is Medicine.

"I have suffered a good deal with malaria and stomach complaints, but I have now found a remedy that keeps me well, and that remedy is Electric Bitters; a medicine that is medicine for stomach and liver trouble, and for run down conditions," says W. C. Kessler, of Hattiesburg, Ark. Electric Bitters purify and enrich the blood, tone up the nerves, and impart vigor and energy to the weak. Your money will be refunded if it fails to help you. 50c at A. M. Lewis & Co's drug store.

Notice to taxpayers.

The Tax Roll of 1908 for the Township of Grayling has been placed in my hands for the collection of taxes, which can be paid every week-day in my office in the brick building between Mr. Peterson's jewelry store and S. H. Co's store.

A. P. W. BECKER.
Town Treas.



LITTLE THINGS THAT CUT

are here for you to select your needs. Then there are all the big things that are necessary to the householder and tools for the carpenter.

DO NOT HAMMER

anything as hard as we hammer our prices. They are so low that we do not know how we do it ourselves. But we hold your custom, and we hold our place at the head, so we guess it is all right.

Salling, Hanson Co.

We will have a choice line of

TURKEYS

DUCKS

GEESSE

CHICKENS

OYSTERS

for your Christmas dinner.

Place your order with us early and get the best.

PEOPLE'S MARKET.

MILKS BROS; Prop'rs.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Christmas Slippers for Men and Ladies', what could be so useful and still cost so little?

New Collars and Belts for Ladies, all the new shades and latest patterns.

Pillow tops and cords from 25 cents to \$1.00.

Mens' neckwear from 25 cents to \$1.00.

Ladies' and Mens' Handkerchief 5 cents to \$3.00.

Ladies' and Mens' Silk Mufflers 50 cents to \$3.00.

Mens' new combination Cuff Buttons and Tie Pins sets something new \$1.50.

Mens' new Shirts in all the new colors.

Fancy Silk and Nets Waists, all colors.

See our new Silk Waist patterns, an ideal Christmas Gifts.

A. KRAUS & SON.

LEADING DRY GOODS STORE.

THE GREATEST CURE

FOR

COUGHS AND COLDS

DR. KING'S

NEW DISCOVERY

GUARANTEED CURE FOR

Croup, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis, La Grippe, Quinsy, Neuritis, Hemorrhage of the Lungs, Weakness of the Lungs, Asthma and all Diseases of

THROAT, LUNGS AND CHEST

PREVENTS PNEUMONIA

Seven years ago Dr. King's New Discovery permanently cured me of a severe and dangerous throat and lung trouble, and I've been a well man ever since.—G. O. Boyd, Muskegon, Mich., U. S. A.

WALMER JORGENSEN, of Grayling, Michigan, Assignee of Mortgage

J. O. CUNNINGHAM, Attorney for Assignee of Mortgage.

nov26-13t

Crawford Avalanche.

GRAYLING, THURSDAY, DEC. 31

Local and Neighboring News.

Take Notice.

The date following your address on this paper shows to what time your subscription is paid. Our terms are \$1.50 per year IN ADVANCE. If your time is up, please renew promptly. A X following your name means we want our money.

All advertisements, communications, correspondence, etc., must reach us by Tuesday noon, and cannot be considered later.

School will open next Monday.

For Clean coal go to Bates.

Gotta Kraus is home from the M. A. C. for the holiday vacation.

Have your jewelry engraving done at Hathaway's.

The Forest Echoes will surprise you at the Band concert, New Year's Eve.

House for Rent, near the McKay house. Enquire at this office.

Be sure to send your order for fresh fish to H. Petersen's store.

Don't forget the Band concert New Year's Eve, at the Opera House.

P. L. Brown has begun work on the new sewer in the east part of the village.

Buy your cut glass and silver at Hathaway's.

Wanted—A few family washings by Mrs. Bennett, south side of the river.

Thorwald Peterson will please you with another of his cornet solos at the Band concert.

Members of the W. R. C. are requested to be present at 2:30 January 9, 1909.

Leave your orders for coal at S. H. Co's. store. Prices as low as anybody's.

Don't fail to hear the Saxophone Duet at the Band Concert, New Year's Eve.

St. Charles Coal, as genuine as any, \$4.50 per ton, delivered. Geo. Langevin.

S. H. Co., will fill your coal bin, if you leave your order at their store. It will pay you to order now.

Bates can show you more grades of soft coal than all other dealers combined. Come and see.

For Sale—A seven room house and lot, also a baby cutter and cab. Inquire of Mrs. L. D. Tower.

Simpson is the cheapest place to buy groceries and dry goods for cash. Come and get prices.

Probate Judge Batterson passed his 64th birthday last Monday, as young as most men at 60.

Don't fail to hear Miss Anna Melstrup, at the Band concert at the Opera House, New Year's Eve.

St. Charles coal, as genuine as any, \$4.50 per ton, delivered. Geo. Langevin.

For first-class lunches at reasonable prices go to Collen's Restaurant. Opposite S. H. Co's. store.

St. Charles coal, as genuine as any, \$4.50 per ton, delivered. Geo. Langevin.

Arthur Fournier is enjoying a ten days vacation from the U. of M. visiting home and friends here.

Cold weather will soon be here and if you need any coal for winter, it will pay you to leave your order with S. H. Co.

Subscriptions taken for the Youths Companion, the greatest publication in the world for our young people. \$1.75 per year.

First class work team, good drivers, with harness and wagon for sale, at less than value. Enquire at AVA-LANCHE OFFICE.

H. Petersen will again have a supply of fresh Codfish, Flounder, Eel and Halibut this week.

For sewing machines, the best in the market, and at the lowest price call at the AVA-LANCHE OFFICE.

The Ladies' Union will hold their regular meeting January 8th, instead of January 1st, at the home of Mrs. Fleming.

The W. R. C. extends an invitation to the Soldiers and their wives to attend our installation Jan. 9, 1909, at 3 p. m.

Don't fail to hear Geo. Smart play the classical Trombone Solo, "In the Eternal City" at the Opera House Thursday eve.

Don't forget to come to the Band Concert at the Opera House Thursday eve and help support your own Band which we all know you are proud of.

Dr. B. N. Insley with his brother from N. W. Canada went to the old home near Toronto, Can., for a visit at the old home, last week.

The genuine St. Charles Coal is the brightest and best for sale only by H. Bates. "This is not the just as good" or the genuine as only, but is the genuine article. Call and see the difference.

The week of prayer will be observed in the Presbyterian church-auditorium every evening next week beginning Monday evening. Rev. W. L. Hood of Alma will be present to assist the pastor. A most cordial invitation is extended to everyone interested in the prosperity of the church and all others who may so desire to attend these services.

The January meeting of the Board of Supervisors will convene on Monday.

Fred Blight and family came down from Johannesburg for a Christmas visit at the old home.

Clyde Hum, Will and Ed, Nolan, and Dolphus Charron all came home from their work at Lansing for a holiday vacation.

The P. O. force earned their money last week and this in handling of packages which went and came through the mails.

Our business men report a satisfactory holiday trade in all departments, and say there was no sign of hard times in Grayling.

James Ballard, who is employed in the office of Robert Smith Printing Company, in Lansing, came home for his turkey, with his mother and sister.

Frank Canfield spent a Christmas hour with his Uncle, Aunt and Cousins, the family of C. T. Jerome, between trains, returning to West Branch, to eat with his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Dingle of Houghton and Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Trumpler of Bay City were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Chamberlain during the holidays.

Miss Altha McIntyre is home for a few days from her school in the U. S. She shows the effect of severe illness, but says she will not have any more of it, which is pleasant news.

The mercury touched zero Tuesday morning at daylight and at sundown was 32° above, reaching 35° in the night with high wind and a good shower. Rather a sharp change.

Charles Cowell and his wife and boy came from Chicago this week for a few days visit. They would not have come at this time, but the boy had to see "Grandma".

Almost a fire in the rear of Sorenson's store Christmas eve. Some papers and waste in a barrel in the yard was in some mysterious way ignited, but discovered and extinguished without damage.

Mr. Kerry's driver got frisky Tuesday and spilled him into the snow, took a lively run around town, leaving the cutter at the old Grayling House corner. No great damage, but considerable excitement.

Rev. E. G. Johnson left this morning for a visit with friends in Detroit and Petrolia, Ont., and will return the latter part of next week. There will be no preaching service in the M. E. church Sunday, Jan. 3rd.

Dedication of the new Danish hall takes place Wednesday evening, Jan. 6th. Rev. Kildegaard of Muskegon and Rev. Nebelman are expected to be here on the occasion. All Scandinavians are cordially invited to be present.

Rev. A. R. Mitchell of West Branch is expected to be in Grayling on the 6th of January to hold Episcopal services in the G. A. R. Hall at 7:30 p. m. All are cordially invited and especially those who are thinking of being confirmed.

All business was closed in Grayling for the Christmas celebration, and everybody seemed to enjoy the great holiday, as seldom before. For several days preceeding, the incoming trains seemed to unload here, leaving with the cars almost vacated. All the churches had pleasant entertainments preceeding, and nearly every house was crowded with home comers and friends.

There was a joyful reunion and family visit at the New Russel Hotel last week. The home coming of the boys brought the entire family together. Mr. and Mrs. Charron, their daughter and six sons, who occupied a table by themselves during their stay. They had a photo taken of the entire group which will be highly prized in the years to come.

A very pretty wedding was solemnized Monday evening of this week, the contracting parties being our Supt. of Schools, J. E. Bradley and Miss Edith M. Chamberlain, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Chamberlain. Rev. Humphrey Fleming, officiated.

After the service the company sat down to an elegant banquet. Owing to the recent death of Mr. Bradley's father the service was a very quiet affair, there being no other guests than the near relatives. The happy couple left for Detroit Tuesday for a few days visit with Mr. Bradley's relatives. Their many friends here and elsewhere wish them all kinds of happiness and prosperity. Com.

The marriage of Miss Laura L. Lewis to Roy R. Cline, a prominent jeweler of Rose City, Mich., was solemnized by the Rev. Edward Dwyne of Rose City, at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Lewis, in Frederic Dec. 26 at 8 o'clock, p. m. They were attended by Miss Rose Lewis, sister of the bride as bridesmaid and Mr. Harry Buck, groomsmen. The bride wore a gown of white Mousseline silk, trimmed Irish Point lace and carried a bouquet of Bride Roses. The floral decorations were Roses, Carnations and Smilax. After the ceremony a sumptuous repast was served and the happy couple left immediately for a wedding trip to the south. Mr. and Mrs. Cline will be at home after Jan. 10th at Rose City. Mrs. Cline has always lived at Frederic and by her sunny disposition has endeared herself to her many friends who join in hearty congratulations and best wishes for their future happiness and prosperity.

CHRISTMAS AT M. P. CHURCH.

The annual Christmas Tree and entertainment was held at the M. P. Church on Thursday evening last.

The program given below was fully carried out, and a short address delivered by Rev. Fleming, pastor of the Presbyterian Church. The church was decorated for the occasion. A Christmas tree, covered with gifts for the children, added much to its beauty. Santa Claus assisted in the distribution of the presents to those present. The attendance was large, every available space being taken. All went home pleased with the entertainment.

PROGRAM.

Opening Chorus.....School
Prayer, Lord, a Prayer.....School
Greeting Song.....Primary Class
Address of Welcome.....F. Jennings
Merry Christmas.....Gladys Deckert
Everybody's Christmas.....Eula Stillwell
A Real Grandma.....Gerald Blaine
Dollies Turn.....Edith Clark
Recitation.....Elaie Love
Song—Away in a Manger.....Ruby Jennings, Florence Regan
Recitation—Love.....Martha Jansen
The Best of All.....Thomas Regan
Santa Claus gets Ready.....Bretina Bennett
Recitation.....Henry Love
Song—Silent Night.....Ethel Clark
When Christmas Comes.....Ethel Clark
Christmas Box.....Five Girls
Christmas Stockings.....Edna Cortrete
Watching for Santa Claus.....Blanche Becraft
Closing Song.....

CHRISTMAS AT M. E. CHURCH.

The annual Christmas Tree and entertainment was held in the M. E. Church last Thursday evening. The program given below was fully carried out. The church was prettily decorated. A large Christmas Tree added to its beauty. The attendance was as large as room would allow and all went home pleased.

PROGRAM.

Song.....School
Prayer.....Pastor
Welcome.....Myra Wilson
Recitation.....Russel Eastman
Recitation.....Harry Pearso
Recitation.....Edison Tower
Solo.....Anna Melstrup
Recitation, A Real Grandma.....Arthur Wakely
Recitation.....Ava McLeod
Recitation.....Bertha Bates
Recitation, Playing Santa Claus.....Emerson Bates
Song.....School
Recitation.....Gladys Everett
Recitation.....Rena Bates
Recitation, No Room at the end.....Florence Gregory
Solo, Hurry Little Snow Flakes.....Alfred Johnson
Recitation.....Charlotte Flagg
Recitation.....Norman Winslow
Recitation.....Clarence Abbott
Recitation—Christmas Story.....Willie Wingard
Duet—Lonely Stockings.....Edna Wingard and cornelia Melstrup
Recitation.....Helen Winslow
Recitation.....Frank Tomlinson
Recitation.....Margaret Burgess
Recitation.....Cora Howard
Recitation.....Edna Dupree
Recitation.....Carlton Melstrup
Recitation, Joe's Christmas Angel.....Vera Crandall
Recitation.....Verna Biggs
Recitation.....Kenneth Crandall
Song.....Primary Class
Recitation, That's Just Me.....Elgin Narren
Recitation.....Beattie Fairbairn
Recitation.....Inez Billings
Recitation.....Ruby Oaks
Exercise, Three Modern Men.....Three Boys
Recitation, Legend of the Christmas Tree.....Francella Wingard
Recitation.....Melo Corwin
Song.....Elden Winslow
Goodnight.....Nine Girls
Recitation, Looking for Santa Claus, Howard Richardson, Austin Narren.

M. E. Church.

Sunday, Jan. 3, 1909.

There will be no preaching service on the above date, as the pastor is out of town. Other services will be at the usual hours.

Sabbath School at 11:45 a. m.

Epworth League at 6:00 p. m.

Prayer meeting Thursday at 7 p. m.

You are cordially invited to participate in all the religious and social functions of our church.

E. G. JOHNSON, Pastor.

M. P. Church.

(South Side)

Sunday, Jan. 3, 1909.

Preaching service at 10:30 a. m.

Sabbath School 11:30 a. m.

Junior League at 3 p. m.

Prayer meeting Wednesday, at 7 p. m.

All are cordially invited to attend these services.

R. H. CUNNINGHAM, Pastor.

Presbyterian Church.

Sunday, Jan. 3, 1909.

Preaching service at 10:30 a. m.

Subject: "The transforming Power of the Reflected Christ."

Sabbath School at 12 m. A. B. Failing, Supt.

Christian Endeavor at 6 p. m. Topic "Duty of making good Resolutions."

Preaching service at 7 p. m. Subject "The Manliness of Christ, or an Appeal for a Manly Christianity."

Prayer meeting Thursday evening at the home of the Pastor.

All are cordially invited to attend these services.

J. HUMPHREY FLEMING, Pastor.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

This is our last call in 1908, and we desire to thank all our customers for the favors of their patronage and we trust our Business relation will continue mutually satisfactory in the future as in the past.

Sorenson's Furniture Store.

Drugs.

Patent Medicines.

Central Drug Store
N. ROLSON PROPRIETOR
"The Best Drugs."

Hints for Holiday Buyers

Call at our store—see the pretty things and note the low prices on Manicure Sets, Military Sets, Music Rolls, Brush and Comb Sets, Toilet Sets, Mirrors, Cigar Cases, Hand Bags, Atomizers, Jewel Boxes, Toilet Water, Xmas Perfumes, Pocketbooks, Cigars, Candles and many other articles.

Bring us your Family Recipes. Prescription Work a Specialty.

O. W. ROESER, Manager.

Candy.

Cigars

MOKA COFFEE
20¢ THE POUND
MOKA COFFEE
400: MOKA COFFEE

SHOPPING DAYS TO

Christmas.

Didn't realize that Christmas was so near did you? And remember that last year you promised your self that never again would you wait until the rush began and the best selections gone. Remember that we offer the largest and best selection and name prices that make the Christmas allowance go farther than elsewhere.

Stop in and look over the goods. buy early and save yourselves and the clerks the inconvenience of a picked over selection. No matter how much or how little you intend spending, give us a call.

A. M. LEWIS & CO.,
Druggist and Book Sellers
Grayling, - - - Mich.

The annual list of lands delinquent for the tax of 1906 and previous years and to be sold by the county treasurer the first of May next, are published in supplement to this issue of the Avalanche.



BEAUTY AT HIS JEWELRY SALE is a foregone conclusion. You know our store and the impossibility of finding an ugly article in it. So when we say we have slashed prices unmercifully in order to reduce our holdings, you know it is

AN UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY. Come and profit by our sacrifice. Buying jewelry of this quality at these special prices is an investment as safe and profitable as purchasing gold dollars for fifty cents.

A. PETERSON
Watchmaker, Jeweler and Engraver.

ESTRAY—Came into my enclosure a red heifer, a year old past. The owner is requested to prove property, pay charges and take her away. Enquire at this office or of MARY T. VALAD.

We extend to all, our wishes for a very

Happy New Year

Grayling Mercantile Co.,

"The Quality Store."

New Goods!

We have a fresh stock of all new goods on hand now since selling off old stock at the auction sale.

If in need of a first class Plow, Harrow, Cultivator, Wagon, Buggy, Cutter, Drill, Roller; or in fact any implement or tool, or hardware goods call on us and get the BEST at reasonable prices.

We are in business for your business and wish your trade. We shall continue in the Hardware and Implement business indefinitely at the old stand. See what we can do for you on a new Cutter.

See us for Bargains.

The S. B. Brott Implement Co.
Wellington, Michigan.

Have You Seen
PHELPS' BARGAIN WINDOW
It will pay you to have a
LOOK.
S. S. Phelps, Jr.
One door South of bakery.

Job Printing

At this office.

The Avalanche

Published by
MICHIGAN

SUMMARY OF THE MOST IMPORTANT NEWS.

Sunday.
Remains of the previous week disprove the old adage that a green Christmas means a fat graveyard, and the record of the year shows extremely low mortality.

Confirmation of the appointment of Bishop D. J. O'Connell, rector of the Catholic University at Washington, as auxiliary bishop of San Francisco, has been received from Rome.

Canada and Mexico have been invited by President Roosevelt to take part in a conference on the conservation of the natural resources of North America, to be held in the White House Feb. 18.

Monday.
A. B. Stickney resigned as receiver of Chicago Great Western.

Seven councilmen, president and cashier of a bank were arrested on charges of graft at Pittsburgh.

A former night rider, in evidence at Union City, Tenn., against men accused of the St. Louis murder, told all the secrets of the organization and named the chief actors in the plot.

Vice President Gomez of Venezuela, to whom Castro turned over all affairs, has established a new government supplanting all the members of the old cabinet with men satisfactory to the people.

Under suspicion of teaching free love and "affiliation and perfect union," the "Order of the Fifteen," a student organization, is being investigated by the officials of the University of Pennsylvania.

Tuesday.
W. H. Newman, president of the New York Central lines, resigned after forty years of active railroad work.

The Herald Square theater in New York was destroyed by fire which started just before the close of the performance.

Wall Street heard that Andrew Carnegie is back in the steel business and is furnishing the money for Schwan's Bethlehem works.

Federal rebate inquiry of Chicago packers started as thirty employees of Morris & Co. were summoned to go before the grand jury.

Acting President Gomez of Venezuela practically broke Castro's rule forever when he personally arrested the president's brother and others.

Wednesday.
According to testimony at the hearing of the alleged grafters, 58 Pittsburgh councilmen accepted bribes for votes.

Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison were sentenced to imprisonment in jail for contempt in back store boycott case.

Venezuela suspended the shipping order that caused the trouble with Holland and the Dutch government ordered its warships to cease operations along the Venezuelan coast.

Missouri Supreme Court ousted the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, Republic Oil Company of Ohio and Waters-Pierce Company from the commonwealth and ordered each to pay a fine of \$50,000.

Thursday.
Pittsburgh bankers are said to have paid \$176,000 in bribes to aid them to secure city deposits.

The New York Stock Exchange suspended W. H. Martin and T. W. Moorhead for three years.

The St. Paul railroad has found that its Montana mines yield good coal and will save \$1,200,000 a year on fuel.

Cyrus R. Teed, who as "Koreah I." rent Chicago in the early '90s, is dead in Florida, where his followers are expecting his resurrection.

Bishop O'Connell will retire as head of the Catholic University at Washington and may become confessor at Baltimore with rights of succession to Gibbons.

Friday.
"Charley" Gates, son of John W. Gates, dropped nearly \$25,000 in betting on Los Angeles races.

A man attacked President Fallieres of France in a street of Paris and tried to pull his beard.

The steamer Pretoria arrived in New York after a terrible struggle with the weather, which made the big liner take more than twice her regular time.

Miss Mary A. Hardy, a patient in St. Mary's hospital in Racine, Wis., was crushed to death when a nurse pulled the cable, suddenly raising the elevator.

More than three hundred moving-picture men in New York protested against Mayor McCellen's action in revoking their licenses and shutting off the holiday trade.

Saturday.
Claus Spreckels, "sugar king of the Pacific coast," died.

H. W. Poor & Co., big New York stock brokerage firm, assigned, with liabilities of over \$500,000.

The Venezuela revolution is complete without the shedding of blood; suits have been filed to secure Castro's property.

Miss Katherine Elkins, wounded in her heart by the breaking of her engagement to the Duke of Abruzzi, will become a trained nurse and soon is to enter course of education.

President Roosevelt, in a reply to appeals in the Gompers case, said he could not pardon the labor leaders while the case was before the courts, but stated that the sentences might be given attention if the appeal was dropped.

NOTES OF CURRENT EVENTS.

The Chattanooga chamber of commerce adopted resolutions requesting President-elect Taft to reappoint Secretary Wright of the War Department.

Vestments and furnishings of the sacristy in the Church of St. Dominic, San Francisco, were damaged to the extent of \$1,000 by some unknown person.

Fire at Interpore, W. Va., destroyed the triple, slack bin, boiler house and other buildings of Fairmont Coal Company. The loss is estimated at \$75,000.

It is reported at Rome that a farewell cable message sent by the Duke of Abruzzi to Miss Katherine Elkins concluded with the words: "I will remember you forever."

A man in evening clothes and with a "gun" in his pocket was arrested at Yonkers, N. Y., while picking a lock at the home of Foster Wade, a New York engineer.

Francis Donohue, a laborer who perished in ringing the doorbell of Mayor McCellen of New York in an attempt to see him, was arrested for disorderly conduct. He said he wanted to defend the Mayor against plotting foreigners.

PRESIDENT OF FRANCE ATTACKED IN STREET

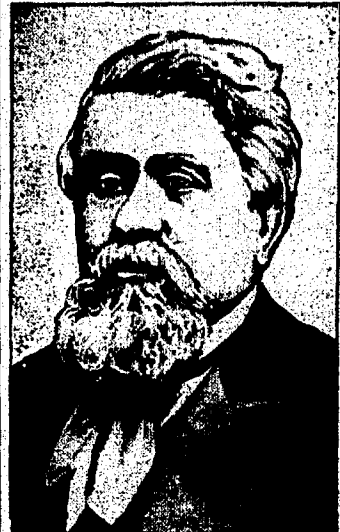
Man Throws Arms About Fallieres' Neck and Tries to Pull His Beard.

ROYALIST PLOT IS SCOTCHED.

Insult Generally Believed to Be Act of Vainglorious Seeker After Notoriety.

While Armand Fallieres, the President of France, accompanied by M. Ramondou, his secretary, and Colonel Lanson, military attaché at the Elysee palace, was taking a morning stroll near the Hotel de l'Elisee in Paris, a poorly clad individual, who evidently had been lying in wait, suddenly jumped upon the President from behind and threw his arms about M. Fallieres' neck in an effort to seize his beard. Colonel Lanson and Secretary Ramondou sprang to the assistance of the President, dragged off his assailant and turned him over to two special detectives who had been following the party on bicycles. President Fallieres' cane was broken in the struggle, but beyond a scratch on the ear he was not injured and insisted on continuing his walk.

As the detectives slipped the handcuffs on the man he cried: "I am unarmed. I simply wanted to pull the President's beard." At the station house the President's assailant proved to be Jean Mattis, a cafe waiter, 24 years old and a native of the department of Savoie. Medals of General



PRESIDENT FALLIERES.

Mercier, the former Minister of War; stamps bearing the head of the Duke of Orleans, a card of membership in the Patrie Française and other Royalist documents were found on his person. During the examination Mattis boasted of being a Royalist and talked confusedly of having done his "duty" and obeyed the dictates of his "conscience." Quantities of Royalist reactionary literature were found by the police when they ransacked his residence.

The investigation reveals the fact that Mattis was in close relation with the Royalist organization, and this gives color to rumors that he was the instrument of a Royalist plot. Serious evidence in this direction, however, is lacking up to the present time, and it is more likely that he is only a crack-brained individual seeking notoriety.

ROBBERS SAVE VICTIMS' LIVES.

Write Note Warning Friends of Couple Tied Up to Beds.

After being tied to their beds for fifteen hours by robbers, William Jones and his aged housekeeper, Mrs. Anna Williams, who live in a little farm house three miles from the hamlet of Yostville, Pa., were discovered and released. They might have starved or frozen to death had not the robbers tied a note to the door of F. C. Wood's blacksmith shop, reading: "Go to William Jones. He is tied in bed and has been robbed by burglars. Don't forget. This is proof." The proof was Jones' gold watch strung by its chain to the knob of the door.

MANY HURT IN THEATER PANIC.

Fire on Stage at Altoona, Pa., Route Spectacular in Harry.

Following the close of an act at the Keith Theater in Altoona, Pa., where a moving picture show was being presented, fire started on the stage. There was a mad rush for the exits by the panic-stricken spectators and many received painful bruises. While the firemen were responding to an alarm the flames spread rapidly, consuming the stage and much of the interior. The origin of the blaze is not known.

G. A. R. WILL NOT GO WEST.

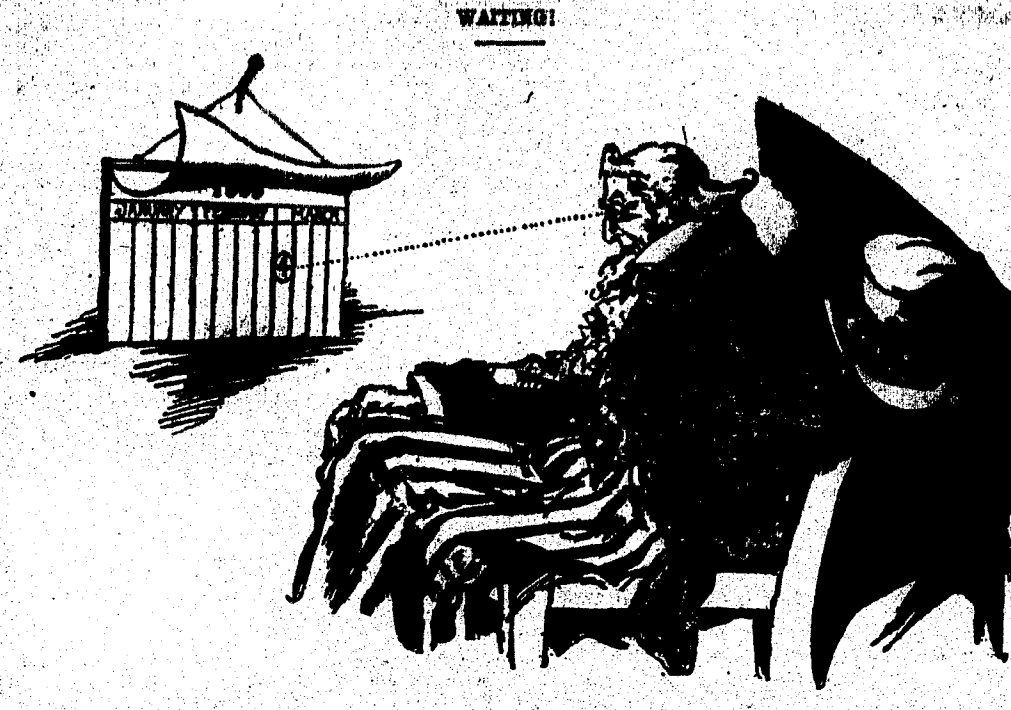
Refusal of Staff State Keeps Encampment in the East.

J. Cory Winans, chief of staff of the National Grand Army of the Republic, says that from all present indications the next national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will not be held at Salt Lake City, but at Cincinnati or Pittsburgh. This is because of the refusal of the traffic association which met in Chicago recently to grant a rate of 1 cent per mile to the veterans.

FLAY BAD, AUDIENCE DANCES.

Actors, Refused Hearing, Sit on Stage While Waits Retains.

When a company of actors was presenting "The Peddler's Parable" in the town hall at Augusta, Ohio, the other night, the audience demanded the price of admission back after the first act. The door of the auditorium then was closed and a dance held. The creature actors watched the dancers from every side of the stage. For the benefit of the actors and actresses many were placed with the word "Strang." Similar cards were placed in all the shop windows of the village.



FIRE IN NEW YORK THEATER.

Herald Square Playhouse Burns Shortly After Audience Leaves.

Just after the curtain went down on the last act of "The Three Twins," at the Herald Square Theater in New York Tuesday night smoke began pouring from the wall back of the first balcony. There was a cry of "fire" and a confused rush for the exit doors by about 200 men and women left in the house, who were standing in front of their seats arranging wraps and coats. They all got out safely, but not a moment too soon, for about three minutes after the alarm flames burst through the wall back of the balcony and swept across the balcony seats. In ten minutes more the whole rear part of the theater, from orchestra to gallery, was ablaze.

At midnight the fire was about under control, but the theater was practically gutted. All the auditorium part was gone, and the flames had penetrated into the section back of the stage. The girl members of the company were the last to leave the place. Some of them fled to Broadway and to 45th street in their costumes and ran into adjoining buildings. Bessie McCoy, the star, fainted on the stage when she saw the flames break through the balcony rail. Some of the other dancers carried her off.

Had the fire burst through into the balcony ten minutes sooner or even five minutes, there might have been terrible loss of life. But most of the audience of 1,000 or so of men and women were out of the theater or in the lobby leading to Broadway when the cry of "fire" arose.

Lee Shubert, one of the lessees of the Herald Square Theater, said that the damage was about \$30,000 to the building and \$10,000 to the interior. The properties and scenery of "The Three Twins" were not injured.

MISSOURI OUSTS OIL TRUST.

Standard of Indiana, Republic and Waters-Pierce Fined \$50,000 Each.

Declaring that the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, the Republic Oil Company of Ohio and the Waters-Pierce Oil Company of Missouri had conspired and combined to monopolize the oil business in the State, the Supreme Court of Missouri has issued a decree ousting all three from the commonwealth and fining them \$50,000 each.

The decree against the Waters-Pierce company is tempered by the provision that it may continue in business if by Jan. 15, 1907, it can show to the court that it has taken steps to operate as an independent concern and has satisfied the judgment against it. The other companies are given until March 1, 1907, to wind up their affairs in the State.

The decision, which was unanimous on the part of the seven judges, and was written by Judge Woodson, is so sweeping that Attorney General Findley and Governor Folk hail it as the end of illegal commercial combinations in Missouri, and the former asserts that, in conjunction with the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the tobacco trust case, it will affect similar suits in other States.

Life Term Given Boy of Seventeen.

The jury in the case of Harvey Hazel, 17 years old, charged with murder in the first degree, for the killing of his mother, returned a verdict of murder in the second degree in Toledo, Ohio. The finding of the jury means that the boy must go to the penitentiary for the remainder of his life. The court can give no other sentence, but he has hope of pardon or parole.

Gas Main Breaks; People Suffer.

A bad break in the natural gas main of the Columbus Gas and Fuel Company at New Albany, Ohio, caused the gas to go out in hundreds of homes in Columbus and there was much suffering.

Acces Husband Buried; Drops Dead.

Immediately after she had looked upon her dead husband, who was being buried from their home, Mrs. Catherine Moore, aged 62 years, dropped dead from heart disease in Philadelphia. The Moores had been married forty years.

More Quakes in Frisco.

Two slight earthquake shocks lasting three seconds, according to Forecaster McAdie of the United States weather bureau, were felt in San Francisco Tuesday afternoon. No damage was done.

Will Pay Turkey \$20,000,000.

The Berlin Frankfurter Zeitung learns from a reliable source that Austria-Hungary is prepared to grant Turkey \$20,000,000 as compensation for the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The paper adds that the transaction only awaits necessary formalities.

Elbert Hubbard Injured.

A falling tree seriously injured Elbert Hubbard, the author and lecturer, in the woods near his home at East Aurora, N. Y. While assisting workmen he misjudged the direction that the tree would fall and was crushed.

FREE CONVICTED PARRICIDE.

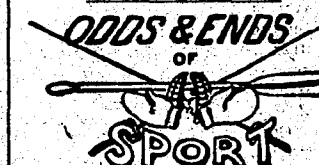
Kansas Governor Pardons John Collins, Witness Having Recanted.

Gov. Hoch of Kansas pardoned John Collins, now serving a life sentence for the murder of his father, J. S. Collins, a well-to-do real estate and insurance man of Topeka, in May, 1898. Young Collins was a student at Kansas university at the time of his father's death. He was convicted upon the testimony of three negroes, all of it being circumstantial. The State set up the plea that Collins was in love with Miss Frances Babcock, a wealthy young woman of Lawrence, and planned the killing of his father that he might gain the big life insurance which the senior Collins carried. One of the negroes has since written a book asserting that the testimony at the trial was part of a plan by enemies of young Collins to ruin him.

MAN SLAIN BY YOUNG WIFE.

Kansas City Man's Attempt to End Marital Discord Results in Death.

Fredrick L. Peterson was shot and almost instantly killed in Kansas City by his wife, Mrs. Rose Peterson, as they were returning from a dance. The couple were married three years ago, but lived together but one year. Last month Mrs. Peterson filed suit for divorce, but her husband had been attempting to effect a reconciliation, and persuaded her to accompany him to a dance. They quarreled while he was taking her home, and in a lonely spot in the southeast part of town, it is claimed, he slapped her face. She drew a small revolver from her pocket and shot him four times. She was arrested, but expressed no regret.



ODDS & ENDS OF SPORT.

Racing at San Antonio, Texas, has begun. A fair class of horses is entered, and the feature is a race at one mile, fourth on the card.

The Australian tennis players won the Dwight F. Davis international cup, finally defeating Messrs. Wright and Alexander, the American contestants.

Myron Curtis, who has coached the Carleton football team for the past two seasons, has resigned his position and will return East and go into business.

Harry Stover, manager of the track at Union, Mo., says he has advice to the effect that there will be no legislation against racing in that State this winter.

At Frankfort, Ky., Justice Lansing, in the Court of Appeals, rendered a decision giving horsemen a sweeping victory, holding that betting or wagering on a horse race is not gaming and cannot be construed as a felony.

Jim Driscoll, claiming to be featherweight champion of England, knocked out Charley Griffin, featherweight champion of Australia, in the eleventh round of a bout which proved the best boxing exhibition seen in Boston in many years.

No football game will be played between Iowa and Minnesota next fall and negotiations have been practically ended, as the Gophers insist that the game be played at Minneapolis and Iowa insists that it be played at Iowa City or not at all.

Alfredo De Oro of Cuba is the three-cushion billiard champion of the world, having won the third block of the match with Thomas A. Hueston of St. Louis by the score of 50 to 38. The final score for the three blocks game is, De Oro 150, Hueston 107.

Now that Demarest and some of the other stars are out of sentimentality owing to the showing up in Chicago, it should be possible to arrange an unusually interesting amateur tourney, for the lesser players will have a chance now they did not have before.

Negotiations are on to take the Cornell, Yale and Harvard rowing crews to Seattle during the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition next summer. It is planned to hold at least one regatta on Lake Washington each month during the exposition, which opens June 1 and closes Oct. 16.

The State board of control of high school athletics will not decide on the place for the annual meet of the Iowa high schools, but the different institutions will be given an opportunity to choose the location of the big yearly event. Des Moines expects to capture the meet.

A fine row has been stirred up in boneball circles by statements from Umpires Klem and Johnstone that an attempt was made to bribe them at the deciding game between New York and Chicago at the New York Polo grounds. National League officials are investigating and prosecutions may follow.

Harry Pulliam was unanimously elected president of the National Baseball League at the annual meeting of the association. John Heider was re-elected to the secretaryship.

Freeman wants to stay in the Wisconsin-Illinois League. A committee is now busy in the Illinois city raising the difference between \$1,000 already subscribed and the total \$2,000 deficit.

The crowds attending football games are increasing every year. An attendance of 20,000 or more at big games is not uncommon this year. The smaller college games are drawing proportionately large crowds.

JAIL FOR LABOR MEN.

Leaders of American Federation Sentenced for Contempt.

One year in jail is the punishment for contempt of court meted out in Washington to Samuel Gompers, head of the American Federation of Labor. Briefers terms are given John Mitchell and Secretary Morrison. As he had announced that he would go to a cell rather than abandon the boycott and blacklist, Mr. Gompers is expected to be behind the bars for a twelve-month.

GROSS-EARNINGS TAX IS LEGAL.

Minnesota Wins Cases Against Great Northern and the Maple Leaf.

The State of Minnesota won a double victory in the Supreme Court in St. Paul when that court, by Justice C. E. Brown, filed opinions in its favor in both the Chicago Great Western and the Great Northern railway tax cases. The court upholds the validity of the law increasing the railroad gross-earnings tax from 3 to 4 per cent, which the roads attacked as unconstitutional. Attorney General E. T. Young personally fought the roads' contention that they could not be made to pay a gross-earnings tax larger than the net percent, which was provided for in their territorial charters. The Great Northern case nominally involves \$120,737.38 for 1905 taxes. The Great Western case involved about \$25,000. The amount at stake, however, is really more than \$150,000 a year to the State treasury. If the decision is sustained by the United States Supreme Court, to which it will undoubtedly be appealed.

INCREASE IN ALIENS SMALL.

America Gained Only 6,204 Foreigners in Year.

The increase in the alien population of the United States in the year ending Sept. 30 last was only 6,204. According to Secretary Straus, 724,112 foreigners came to this country in the years between Oct. 1, 1905, and Sept. 30 last, but during the same period 717,914 foreigners left our shores for their own countries. Secretary Straus said that never before has the government had figures as to departing aliens. Steamships have been relied upon to furnish estimates of these, but until the last year, the figures were not officially recorded. Hereafter this will be done.

Clothes Lusted from Spark.

The explosion of a workman's powder-filled clothes caused the owner, Asa Burton, to be seriously, if not fatally, injured at the plant of the Huron Powder Company, near Louisville, Ohio. He is recovering from his wounds.

The explosion of a small motor which caused his clothes to explode, but fortunately did not set off any powder in the plant.

To Claim Share of Big Estate.

John W. Asken of Albuquerque, N. M., will claim a share of the estate of Baron Christopher Springer at Wilmington, Del., estimated at \$80,000,000. Asken, who is an employee of the Santa Fe railway, declares his grandmother, Hannah Springer, was a sister of the baron and that he is her only direct descendant now living.

Low Water Delays Coal Ships.

A shipment of 1,000,000 bushels of coal left the Kanawha river the other day for Cincinnati and Louisville. The river at Cincinnati and Louisville. The river at Cincinnati and Louisville. The river at Cincinnati and Louisville.

Entombed Miners Found Dead.

Entombed in the Pennsylvania colliery at Mount Carmel, Pa., by an avalanche of coal, the bodies of Frank Loggan and Stanislaus Morisange were found in a manway by a rescuing party.

Bank Treasurer Ends Life.

Frank W. Cutting, 57 years old, for the last forty years connected with the Worcester, Mass., Mechanics' Savings Bank, was found dead by suicide at his home. He left a note saying that the accounts were all right. The bank, according to the latest available report, holds \$11,784,990 belonging to depositors.

Newman Quits Railroad Job.

W. H. Newman has resigned as president of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company, his resignation to take effect Feb. 1, 1907.

STRANGER SLAYS STUDENT.

Man Enters House of Rich Woman's Relative and Kills Youth.

Van Dwight Sheldon, an engineering student in the junior class at New York University, was shot to death after a struggle at 9:15 o'clock Wednesday morning in the cellar of the home of Charles H. Snow, dean of the school of arts and sciences of the university in New York City. While dying he gasped out an incoherent statement whose purport seemed to be that he had been killed by a strange man who was seeking Miss Helen Gould.

Dean Snow is married to a cousin of Miss Helen Gould, and Miss Gould has been in the habit of visiting her cousin and remaining over night. There was a report that Miss Gould was in the house Tuesday night, but this the dean denied. He said, however, that the intruder probably thought that the house belonged to Miss Gould, that she was in it and that he went there with the idea of getting money.

Sheldon, who was 24 years old, was living with Dean Snow and helping him about the house. The young man lived three hours after he was shot. When found his wrists and ankles were bound. Only a fragmentary story of the tragedy could be drawn from the dying boy, and he expired while struggling to make an ante-mortem statement to Coroner MacDonald in the Fordham Hospital. The assailant made his escape in spite of searching parties of hundreds of students, mounted police and the reserves of the University Heights station.

Young Sheldon said that just as he approached the furnace a man stepped out and said: "Is Miss Helen Gould in this house?" "No," replied the startled student. "Is this her house?" "No," repeated the young man, picking up the furnace shrike for a weapon. "You lie!" cried the man, springing at the boy's throat. Then began the struggle which the dying young man sought in vain to describe. It was ended by a shot that penetrated the left side of the abdomen, passed through several organs and lodged in the spine. The police were unable to find traces of an intruder and were inclined to call it a case of suicide.

KORESH I. IS DEAD.

Body of C. R. Teed, Head of Queer Sect, Held for Resurrection.

Cyrus R. Teed, known as Koreah I., founder and head of the Koresan Unity Corporation of Western people, who bought a large tract of land in Lee County, Pa., several years ago and sought to establish their peculiar beliefs in that section of the country, died early Tuesday morning.

The fact of his death was not disclosed until Thursday, and when investigation was made, his devout followers said they were awaiting a resurrection. While the body of the leader lay unattended, Victoria Gratia, the supposed wife of Teed, assumed the throne with much solemnity, and declared that the body should not be buried until there was a manifestation of the divine will. The basis of the Koresan cosmogony is that all life is cellular, originating in cells, all living structures being composed of cells and propagating cells; whence the conclusion that the universe, the great aggregation of all cells, must itself be a cell; the material walls of which are composed of the shell of the earth.

Teed was one of Chicago's company of eccentric religious leaders up to about six years ago, when he removed his headquarters to Florida. It was in Chicago that he developed his cult of Koresan unity and gained the nucleus of a following that eventually numbered from 15,000 to 20,000 believers.

HOLDS TEACHER MAY USE ROD.

Kentucky Attorney General Finds Legal Right for Punishment.

The controversy relating to the legal right of the school teacher of the common schools of Kentucky to whip a disorderly pupil was ended when Attorney General James Breathitt handed down an opinion to State Superintendent of Public Instruction Crabbe in which it is held that the teacher is given the authority to whip if it is necessary to maintain discipline. A recent opinion of Judge William Carroll of Newcastle, that the teacher had no right to whip, has partly disorganized the common schools and almost made it necessary to close some of them.

Banished from Missouri.

The Supreme Court of Missouri has handed down a decision banishing the Standard Oil Company of Indiana and the Republic Oil Company from the State. The banishment is a result of the decision in the Missouri case, and the Standard Oil Company of Indiana and the Republic Oil Company of Ohio are also banished from the State.

Fall Fatal to Edward Craig.

Edward Le Forte Craig, son of the late Mayor Craig, and official photographer of the Chicago police department, was fatally injured when he tumbled down the steps in front of his home, and died when on the way to a hospital. He left a widow and a son, De Witt Craig III, 5 years old.

CURRENT NEWS NOTES.

Cardinal Victor Lucian Sulpiac Leot, archbishop of Bordeaux, died at Chambéry, France.

Date culture in the Imperial valley, California, is declared to be a success by J. W. Jennings, an experimenter.

Justices of the Court of Special Sessions in New York sat all night in efforts to catch up on cases.

Forty-two steam and thirteen sailing vessels were built in the United States and officially numbered during November.

A special commission from Porto Rico is in Washington for the purpose of inducing Congress to impose a duty of 5 cents a pound on foreign coffee, the principal industry of the island.

A bridge three miles in length will be built by the Pennsylvania road over Hell Gate, from Port Morris, a suburb of New York, to Long Island. The center arch will be 1,000 feet long.

The Rev. John P. McManus, assistant pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Toledo, in the pulpit announced that his days were numbered, according to doctors, but he would labor to the last.

COMMERCIAL FINANCIAL

NEW YORK.

Holiday trade shows further expansion and most cities report buying of this character equal to or slightly in excess of last year's. In some sections, particularly in the South, holiday trade is not so good as in 1907. The larger centers are doing well and armies of shoppers are in evidence, but many small cities report a relatively light business and demand shifting to cheaper lines.

In regular retail lines unseasonably warm weather has been a drawback, particularly Southwest and South. Wholesale trade is quieter, except for some hurry orders to sort up depleted stocks.

Inventories and stock takings naturally predispose to less activity from now till after Jan. 1. Reports from leading industries are of gradual gains and slow progress back to normal.

There are some orders for steel rails from railroads, and the tin plate mills are busier; there is a better supply of water in New England and paper mills are running more freely; Eastern shoe manufacturers report three months' orders ahead, and there is more demand for lumber, some of this on account of railroad buying, with firmer prices for yellow pine.

Business failures in the United States for the week ending Dec. 17 number 310, against 206 last week, 300 in the like week of 1907, 227 in 1906, 235 in 1905 and 240 in 1904. Business failures in Canada for the week number 31, against 60 last week and 40 in this week of 1907.—Bradstreet's Commercial Index.

CHICAGO.

The general state of trade testifies to well-sustained recovery, although new demands in the heavy industries do not appear with the promptness expected. This delay does not detract from the outlook, as the requirements are known to be accumulating. Trading defaults again are larger, but the volume of payments through the banks makes a gratifying exhibit. Retail activity in Christmas and general merchandise would be of ampler proportions were the weather more reasonable. Early buying, however, has been unusually strong and the prospects brighten for a satisfactory aggregate. Retailer advice indicates that stocks undergo rapid depletion, and this has induced frequent reorders. Wholesale lines have a rather light house trade, as expected at this time, and attention is now given to inventories. Mail orders for spring and summer wares show increases.

Failures reported in the Chicago district number 41, against 40 last week, 28 in 19

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